

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM
NOVEMBER 18, 2014**

Present: Ms. Laurie Slap, Chair
Ms. Anne Lougée, Secretary
Mr. Thomas Caputo
Dr. Lisa Fiore
Ms. Elyse Shuster
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Business, Finance and Operations

Also present: Mr. Daniel Vernick, Student Representative

Absent: Ms. Laurie Graham

1. **OPENING BUSINESS**

1.1 Call to order

Ms. Slap called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Slap led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Citizens' Concerns

There were no citizens' concerns.

1.4 Adjustments to the Agenda

1.5 Chair's Report

Ms. Slap introduced Mr. Thomas Caputo who was appointed one day prior to fill the School Committee vacancy due to the resignation of Mr. Kevin Cunningham. Ms. Slap explained the process by which Mr. Caputo was chosen by the School Committee and Board of Selectmen. She noted his background in business and technology.

Mr. Caputo thanked the School Committee for welcoming him and stated that he was looking forward to working with them.

Ms. Slap updated the School Committee on recent and upcoming events in the Town and Schools.

1.6 Student Representative Report

Daniel Vernick updated the School Committee on the recent renovations to the high school library explaining how happy students are with the new space. He thanked everyone who helped to move the project forward and he thanked the Belmont High School PTO for helping to fund it.

1.7 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Phelan updated the School Committee on the plans to try and deal with the potential end of year deficit explaining the he has been working with the Central Office Administrators to discuss strategies to deal with the issue. The School Committee will be updated on these efforts at its December 2nd meeting.

Superintendent Phelan updated the School Committee on the recent preliminary report by the architectural firm who has been studying the space needs throughout the Belmont schools. He, along with Mr. Gerry Boyle, Director of Consolidated Facilities for the town, met with the architects last week to discuss their work. The report is being edited and the final draft will be forthcoming. Superintendent Phelan also explained that Belmont High School is advancing to a senior study phase with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Superintendent Phelan updated the School Committee of recent post-season sporting events involving Belmont teams.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Superintendent Phelan addressed the increased class size in all of the district's schools. Dr. Fiore expressed her hope that the Administration look creatively for additional opportunities to address the issue, such as internship and visiting scholar programs.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

3. MAJOR BUSINESS

3.1 Second Reading of Policies and Vote

0005 Criminal History Information – Exhibit A-1

0006 Bullying and Hazing – Exhibit A-2

4006 Resignation, Retirement, Dismissal and Reduction in Force – Exhibit A-3

5010 Student Fees, Fines and Charges – Exhibit A-4

Ms. Slap explained that the School Committee would be voting to accept the policies that were presented to them at the last School Committee meeting.

On a motion offered by Ms. Shuster and seconded by Ms. Lougée, it was

VOTED 5-0-0 to accept the updated School Committee Policies as written in Exhibits A-1, A-2, A-3 and A-4.

3.2 M.A.S.C. Resolution Update

Ms. Lougée reported that the appointed delegates voted in favor of all seven resolutions and two minor by-law amendments presented at the 68th Annual Meeting of the MASC/MASS on November 5th.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON UPDATES (as needed)

4.1 Finance Subcommittee

The Finance Subcommittee met this morning to review the work it will be doing over the next few months. The Committee also reviewed the space study and discussed measures to address this year's deficit.

4.2 Policy Subcommittee

There was no report from the Policy Subcommittee.

4.3 Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee

The Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee will meet in December to review the Belmont High School Program of Studies for the 2015-2016 school year.

4.4 Capital Budget Committee

The Capital Budget Committee met last night prior to the start of Town Meeting to vote on financing for the Belmont Center project.

4.5 Warrant Committee

The Warrant Committee met November 12 and saw a presentation on the Belmont Center project. Ms. Lougée reported on the visit from a senior study group from the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

4.6 Wellington Building Committee

There was no report from the Wellington Building Committee.

4.7 Financial Task Force

The Financial Task Force met two weeks ago and their work will be completed by the end of December. The meeting scheduled for November 20th was postponed.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

5.1 Consent Agenda - none

5.2 Personnel Items - none

5.3 Business Items – None

5.4 Approval of Minutes

October 21, 2014

October 28, 2014

On a motion offered by Ms. Lougée and seconded by Dr. Fiore, it was

VOTED 4-0-1 with one abstention to approve the minutes of October 21, 2014 and October 28, 2014.

6. **FUTURE BUSINESS**

Upcoming Meetings:

December 2, 2014

Finance Subcommittee Meeting

SAB Conference Room – 8:00 a.m.

December 2, 2014

School Committee Meeting

CMS Large Community Room – 7:30 p.m.

7. **ENCLOSURES**

November 1, 2014 Enrollment

November 1, 2014 Enrollment indicating changes

Class Size Report

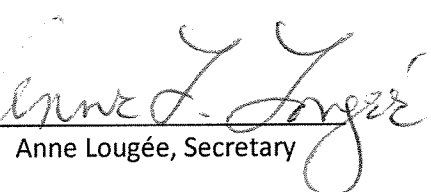
Strategic Plan Update

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:30 p.m. on a motion offered by Ms. Shuster and seconded by Dr. Fiore, it was

VOTED 5-0-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by



Anne Lougée, Secretary